

The Times-Dispatch

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THURSDAY, JUNE 6, 1912.

OUR TRAVELER GUESTS.

Welcome heartily to the Grand Coun-
 cil, United Commercial Travelers, as it
 begins its session here to-day! Such
 guests Richmond delights in having
 within her gates, for they are every-
 where the exponents of everyday
 brotherhood and the advance agents
 of progress. If commerce is the great
 torch-bearer of civilization and the
 foundation of national prosperity, then
 the commercial travelers are an im-
 mense force in upbuilding the coun-
 try and in making for a better order
 of things. The man who has a good
 line is really an apostle of efficiency
 and an exponent of the square deal
 between man and man.

"Who is this bagman?" said some
 of the lordly scoffers of England, when
 the greatest benefactor of the Eng-
 lish people, Richard Cobden, put an
 end to the "system of legislative murder"
 which "starved people to death"
 by forbidding the importation into
 England of the necessary foodstuffs of
 life. It was this commercial traveler
 who loved the business for the oppor-
 tunities it gave him of studying men
 and things that drove famine from the
 homes of the plain people and estab-
 lished the principle of free trade for
 the benefit of a starving nation; it was
 this man whose memory is revered
 as is none other's of modern times by
 the English people who was proud
 that he had once carried a sample
 case. There are lesser Cobdens in
 great number among the commercial
 travelers to-day; missionaries who
 preach the gospel of good roads, be-
 cause they know by hard experience
 the need of them; men who carry into
 the dark and far away places the in-
 spiring story of progress and reform;
 men who infect communities with zeal
 for the new and the better things of
 life; men who exemplify everywhere a
 cheerful philosophy of fraternalism
 and service. Traveling men constitute
 the greatest human advertising force
 in the world; they advertise that which
 is good, and they do not advertise that
 which is not. They build cities with
 their boasting; they give a good name
 that is above price.

If all the commercial travelers sud-
 denly quit the business and none could
 be found to take up their work, the
 world would soon realize their tremen-
 dous importance to commerce and
 to civilization. Without them business
 would to a great degree dwindle and
 become stagnant; without them mil-
 lions of housekeepers would go to the
 wall; without them many communities
 would be dark and backward; without
 them the wheels of business progress
 would go slow indeed.

AUTOMOBILE PSYCHOLOGY.

Richmond at present offers an in-
 teresting field for the study of the
 psychology of the automobile driver.
 The owners and users of automobiles
 are among the best citizens of the
 community, and yet many of the com-
 plaints against carelessness, speeding
 and disregard of the comfort of others
 are perfectly just. The constant
 recurrence of these complaints sug-
 gests the question: Is there any-
 thing in the possession of a machine
 that tends to develop the antisocial
 side of a man's nature?

Several points may be made. Often
 the possession of the machine is a
 ground for a feeling of superiority. It
 is more or less a symbol of wealth
 and power. It sets a man aside from
 the common everyday class who but
 aggravate the feeling by their open
 admiration and envy. To persons of
 not very clear vision as to what are
 the essentials of life, a car often
 stands as a badge of success. It ac-
 counts some sentiment of class distinction.
 As a result, the man who
 speeds by a tolling pedestrian comes
 to look down upon him and regard
 his rights as of small importance.
 Such a silly feeling is, of course, typi-
 cal but of a small and thoughtless
 group, but it exists.

Again in the case with which an au-
 tomobile is driven causes the careless
 owner to forget how ponderous, swift
 and dangerous an instrument he is
 guiding. He is running a huge and
 complicated machine frequently with-
 out the skill or training that are
 demanded as prerequisites for such
 occupations. A turn of a lever will
 increase the speed, but unfortunately
 a quick stop or change of direction is
 not equally easy. Before he knows
 it he is running too swift for the
 welfare of pedestrians. This may
 occur without a moment's conscious-
 ness of the risk. Moreover, the occu-
 pant of an easy-running, powerful
 car is not aware of the speed at which
 he is traveling. Good streets and
 fine spring above inflated tires con-
 spire to make him overlook how nar-
 row often is the escape of a passer-
 by. A woman may be trembling for
 an hour from her leap out of the way,
 although the rider himself may have
 laughed at it. In addition, all of the
 small discomforts are unshared in by
 the occupants. The dust is left be-
 hind, and the odor never noticed. If
 these things do attract his attention,

he judges of them only as the neces-
 sary evils accompanying his hurried
 passage. But a pedestrian may have
 to endure an almost continuous shower
 of dust and a steady gust of foul-
 smelling gas on the road or sitting in
 the park.

As for speeding, part of it is due
 to the heedless chase for sensation
 among the young and thoughtless
 who become afflicted with the speed
 mania. This should be checked with
 a stern hand. Another cause is the
 natural desire of an automobilist to
 use his car to get from one place to
 another in a hurry. He employs it as
 a time saver. And when he starts, he
 forgets that his haste may bring in-
 jury to another. There is also a
 tendency to feel that the responsibility
 has been shifted to a chauffeur who
 is paid to keep going and not hurt
 any one.

It is certainly true that otherwise
 considerate and careful people do
 forget the rights of others when they
 mount into the tonneau of a car. This
 is no reason for interfering with the
 legitimate use of cars for pleasure
 and business. But it is a reason for
 demanding skill and judgment in the
 men who run them. A strict license
 system should be enforced. The
 thoughtful owner moreover should
 wash his own unconscious leaning
 toward speed and selfishness, effect
 increased by the psychological effect
 of the machine.

THE POPULAR DEMAND FOR ROOSEVELT.

That the compelling reason for his
 attempt for a third term is based on
 a great popular demand for him has
 been the oft-repeated declaration of
 Roosevelt. "A part of our fight has
 been to wake the people up," he said
 in Ohio. "Every boss in the country
 is against us," he said in his appeal
 this week to South Dakota, forgetting
 conveniently for the moment Dan
 Hanna, Walter Brown and "Bill"
 Flinn, "but the great majority of the
 rank and file are with us."

But are they? How many of the
 people are with him? No possible
 trick or device to stir up the people
 and arouse them from indifference
 has been neglected in his screaming
 campaign. Has he alarmed them?
 Has he got them out of bed?
 Complete returns from eight of the
 States which have had presidential
 primaries expose his claims. These
 States cast a total vote in 1908 of
 3,724,941 for the Republican party.
 The total Republican primary vote in
 1912 is only 1,562,988. Population has
 increased and the novelty of the
 presidential primary would seem to
 attract, but the Republican primary
 vote this year is only 55.6 per cent.
 of the party's vote in the election four
 years ago. Practically speaking, one
 out of every two Republicans did not
 wake up or did not go to the primary
 poll.

Of these 1,562,988 primary ballots,
 which represent less than 55.6 per
 cent. of all and new Republican voters
 in 1912, how many did Roosevelt get?
 He received only 60 per cent. of the
 total Republican primary vote. In
 Pennsylvania he received 52.5 per
 cent.; in Massachusetts, but 42.5 per
 cent.; in California, 54. Of the 1,562,693
 votes in all the eight States, he obtained
 slightly more than 55 per cent., or
 about 875,000 in round numbers.

But this 55 per cent. for Roosevelt
 among all those who cast preferential
 votes this year is only 50 per cent.
 of the Republican strength shown
 four years ago. Roosevelt's "great
 majority of the rank and file" is only
 one out of three of his own party. He
 mustered less than 42 per cent. of the
 Republican strength in Illinois, where
 he made his best showing; but 35 per
 cent. in Pennsylvania, but 25 per
 cent. in Nebraska, and but 19 in Ohio.

Roosevelt's supporters are scarcely
 one in five of the voting strength of
 all parties in these eight States, and
 there are some great States he could
 not carry even in a primary. There
 is just ground for conjecture in the
 view of the St. Louis Post-Dispatch
 that "there is no assurance that
 Colonel Roosevelt would win 50 per
 cent. of the Republican vote next
 November."

WHO PAYS?

The Moore ordinance prohibiting
 members of the Council and other
 municipal employees from going on
 junketing trips at the expense of
 persons interested in city contracts
 should be passed. The situation that
 has developed as a result of the visit
 paid by the members of the Commit-
 tee on Streets to Northern cities as
 guests of firms desiring to exploit the
 virtues of their paving materials affords
 ample proof of this.

As a result of the criticism made
 upon this trip, it is now proposed that
 the city reimburse the said firms for
 money spent in financing the in-
 spection tour. This should be done.
 Richmond should not be put in the
 position of accepting favors for its
 servants from private parties. The
 members of the committee should be
 relieved from the embarrassment un-
 fortunately arising from their action.
 At the same time a rigid regulation
 should be made that no such junkets
 will be permitted in the future unless
 by direction of the city authorities
 and unless paid for from city funds.
 The present case should offer no ex-
 ception for excursions which the city
 does not demand, yet which are in
 the end to be paid for by it.

The occasion may arise when, for
 the best interests of Richmond, it
 may be necessary to gain information
 by sending some one abroad in search
 of it. But this inspection should in-
 volve no obligation of any kind to
 any person, and especially to any firm
 or individual who may be interested
 in the action to be taken by those
 who are sent. It should be purely a
 part of city business, and should not

even be touched with the relation of
 guest and host. If the city does not
 deem the information to be gotten as
 of sufficient importance or necessity
 to pay for it, then it should be se-
 cured in no other way.

THE PAVING DECISION.

It is a good thing to know that
 Broad Street is going to glitter res-
 plendently as a smooth boulevard.
 The sooner the work is done the
 better. The investigation of the
 question was full and showed a real
 desire to accomplish the highest good
 for the whole city. Particularly de-
 serving of commendation is the weight
 the committee attached to the report
 presented by the City Engineer. His
 full and illuminating statement of
 the merits of the different types of
 paving offered doubtless determined
 the final action of the committee to a
 large extent, and rightly so. He is
 the man who will have to supervise
 the work and to a great degree be-
 come responsible for it. His opinion
 had the foundation of long experience
 with Richmond traffic conditions and
 needs. His word was of far more im-
 portance than the arguments or re-
 commendations of any outside and in-
 terested party.

We thought and we still think
 that the wood block paving would
 have made the most attractive and
 pleasing surface for a street of this
 nature. We regret that the City En-
 gineer and the committee did not see
 the matter in this way. But of far
 more concern than this practical dif-
 ference of opinion is the praiseworthy
 precedent of listening to his expert
 advice and acting upon it to support
 his authority. It affords an example
 of the most enlightened method of
 dealing with municipal affairs. The
 city employs men to furnish technical
 advice and supervision, and their
 opinions should be given the fullest
 consideration. The sooner all the
 activities of the city are put upon this
 basis, the better for the results. A
 fundamental rule for such cases should
 be to put men trained and capable of
 handling public matters in full charge
 and then to hold them responsible for
 the success or failure of the work.
 Then if the man to whom authority is
 delegated proves unapt, let him be re-
 placed by another. We are glad the
 committee followed this plan, and we
 trust that their choice will be fully
 justified.

PASS THE FERGUSON ORDINANCE.

When so important a measure as
 the Ferguson ordinance prohibiting
 improper political activity of city em-
 ployees is pending before it a quorum
 of the Common Council should be
 secured easily at the meeting to-night.
 That ordinance is certain to become a
 law; postponement of its passage
 hurts none but the city employees
 themselves, because it creates the
 impression that they are trying to
 prevent its enactment. As a matter
 of fact, there are many city employ-
 ees who will rejoice when such an or-
 dinance becomes law, for they have been
 forced into undue political activity.
 Threats of future punishment or
 of future reward have made many
 a servant of the city participate
 officially in elections when he had no
 desire to do so. The writing of the
 Ferguson law on the city statute-
 book will dissipate much of the criti-
 cism that has been directed at the city
 employees, and it is as much to their
 interest as to that of the city that
 the ordinance should be passed to-
 night by the Common Council and
 sent up to the Board of Aldermen for
 concurrence. Postponement of its con-
 sideration only breeds dissatisfaction
 among the people.

Baltimore is having a "paint-the-
 town" crusade in preparation for the
 Democratic convention. In November
 all over the country the Democrats will
 have a chance to paint things red.

Colonel Roosevelt says that Presi-
 dent Taft's action in Ohio is "pure bri-
 gandage." The Colonel had better
 found the Order of the Forty Thieves
 for those who have graduated from the
 Ananias Club.

Is Captain Rostrom being kissed just
 because his name sounds like Captain
 Hobson?

Maybe now New York will have a
 chance to learn what good old-fash-
 ioned home cooking tastes like.

The political platform from which
 the ordinary man stands the best
 chance of reaching up to the high cost
 of living is the one most people want.

The rain check issued to Senator
 Lorimer seems about to expire.

The best way to suppress graft in
 Atlantic City is to suppress Atlantic
 City.

Roosevelt was right about one thing
 at least. The whole business is nothing
 but a fight—without even a good
 referee.

The flies say Richmond isn't what it
 used to be as a summer resort.

The luscious blackberry has a re-
 putation for being a bad berry, and
 appeared in Richmond—as usual, be-
 fore it did in any other place.

Mrs. Emmora Blaine says that no
 woman's hat should weigh more than
 four ounces, but she would have
 captured the males of the species com-
 pletely if she had added that it should
 not cost more than \$1.

It is said that some of the rich North
 Carolina farmers now plow in their
 dress suits.

"What to do with tin cans" is the
 problem worrying the Kansas City
 Municipal Art League. "Fill 'em with
 beer," suggests a walking delegate of
 the American Association for the
 Avoidance of War.

The school investigation seems to
 have gone on its long vacation, too.

On the Spur of the Moment

By Roy K. Moulton

Caught on the Fly.
 The south cares not who may make
 her nation's laws, so long as she can
 furnish her nation's ball players.
 If it were not for the moving pic-
 tures the world could forget that Tur-
 ko-Italian war entirely.

It seems about time to hand the
 "To Let" sign on the Hague peace
 Tribunal building.
 A New York Congressman says it
 is impossible for him to live on his
 salary and perhaps this is the reason
 there are so many "dead ones" in
 Congress.

Lillian Russell announces that she
 has trained down to 165 pounds. Then,
 of course, she is ready for a sixteen-
 year-old part again.

Just After Housecleaning.
 Little drops of water.
 Little grains of dust.
 Make the tracky mud which
 Gets the housewife tussled.

Heard of but seldom seen.

Noisy salaries.
 Noiseless autos.
 Bashful actors.
 Lodge goats.
 Retired women.
 Refraining politicians.
 Bank rolls.
 Square bridge gams.
 Truthful fishermen.
 Dirtless railroads.
 Economical furnaces.

How to Build a Bungalow.
 There is probably nobody in this
 world who hasn't at some period in
 his career desired to own a bungalow.
 A bungalow is a long, low, rakish
 looking house with a porch in front
 and an ash can behind. You get into
 it by going on your hands and knees
 and you crawl out backward for there
 generally isn't a room inside to turn
 around without upsetting two or three
 hundred dollars worth of furniture.
 The roof is so close to the floor that
 when you get into a bungalow you
 feel like a porcine portion of a ham
 sandwich.

One way to build a bungalow is to
 follow the advice of the magazines.
 According to them you can build a
 bungalow for any price from \$450 up
 to \$3,000,000 and you can go a little
 higher than the last named figure if
 you want to have plumbing in it.

The magazine prices for a \$450
 bungalow are about as follows:
 Lumber\$1.91
 Brick29
 Paint10
 Carpenter work51
 Plastering54
 Tin work25
 Heating25
 Extras25
 Total\$4.50

Of course, it can be done a little
 cheaper by leaving out the roof and
 the sidewalks, but it seems as though
 anybody ought to be able to afford
 a bungalow at the figure named. We
 have a friend who is building one on
 the lot variety after a magazine
 recipe. Up to date it has cost him
 only \$3,726.53, and it is nearly half
 done.

Headlines We Will Never See.

Man Loves Housecleaning;
 Carpet Beating His Sport
 Husband of Suffragist
 Denounces Votes for Women
 Oil King Gives His Last Dollar
 Gives Away His Last Dollar
 Foreign Nobleman is Robbed
 Of a Large Sum of Money
 Republicans Make Great Gains in
 the State of South Carolina
 Prominent Citizens Offer
 To Run for Vice Presidency
 Actress Loses Her Diamonds;
 Refuses to be Interviewed.

George W. Stevens.
 It is with great pleasure to us that
 word has been received that the pre-
 sident of the Chesapeake and Ohio has
 passed successfully through a severe
 operation and is now recovering rapidly
 therefrom. This news gives much
 pleasure to the friends of Mr. Stevens
 in West Virginia. This is a severe
 West Virginia would miss George
 Stevens. He has wrought manfully
 for West Virginia. He has been a
 staunch friend of this State. Where-
 ever with his strong hand he could
 center good into West Virginia and
 relation which he has done so. This
 to the State, he has made in the
 years of his occupancy of high posi-
 tion on the Chesapeake and Ohio is
 of genuine kindness and good feeling.
 He is a man of great ability; he has
 never shied his hand when he could
 help our State, and his kindness of
 heart, his sweetness of manner, and
 his desire to please has always been
 uppermost.

We congratulate him and his road
 on the recovery of his health.—Charle-
 ton (W. Va.) Gazette.

Voice of the People

A Texan on Virginia Justice.
 To the Editor of The Times-Dispatch:
 Sir.—The enclosed editorial article,
 entitled "Virginia Justice," was sent to
 me by the author, Judge Kittrell, of
 Texas. It is taken from the Houston
 Chronicle of May 29. Judge
 Kittrell is a great admirer of Virginia,
 as you can readily see.

GEORGE I. CHRISTIAN.
 Again Virginia courts have set an
 example worthy of universal imitation.

Abe Martin

He does, unlike the procedure would
 be in Texas, no record will go up as
 big as an unbridled dictionary. It
 will be in the form of bills of excep-
 tion, pointing out the errors com-
 mitted, and if the Court of Appeals
 of Virginia concludes that substantial
 justice has been done it will promptly
 say so, and, as was done in the Beattie
 case, will reject the appeal and the
 electric chair will do the rest.

The killer doesn't monkey with the
 counts in Virginia. If he sheds the
 blood of his fellow-man with malice
 aforethought, the chances are he will
 literally "get it in the neck." His case
 doesn't go over by established usage
 to the next term, as is the custom in
 many districts in Texas—a custom
 which has so long prevailed that to
 breach it is made ground of exception.

A few days ago, in an interior coun-
 ty, a man shot another in the back
 at the very door of the courthouse, and
 a number of the grand jurors saw the
 deed done. A Houston judge was told
 of the case, and he called the grand
 jury in and directed that the matter
 be taken up at the earliest possible
 hour. An indictment was returned
 early Monday morning, and the judge
 set the case for the next Monday,
 whereupon the counsel for the defend-
 ant, expressing profound surprise and
 earnest protest.

The court replied: "I see no reason
 for delay. The witnesses are here, the
 defendant is here, the jurors are here;
 a hundred people saw the tragedy; the
 defendant has counsel, and the law
 says he is entitled to a speedy trial,
 and the setting will stand as made."

Texas needs to learn much from Vir-
 ginia. She has made all her sister
 States her debtors in many ways along
 all the journey of the years, and their
 obligation has been immeasurably in-
 creased by the lesson which she has
 taught them in the Beattie and Allen
 cases, by which they will learn that
 her courts are not havens of refuge
 for murderers, and that no quibbling
 or hair-splitting technicalities will be
 permitted to obstruct the march of
 justice or make a mockery of her laws
 and her courts.

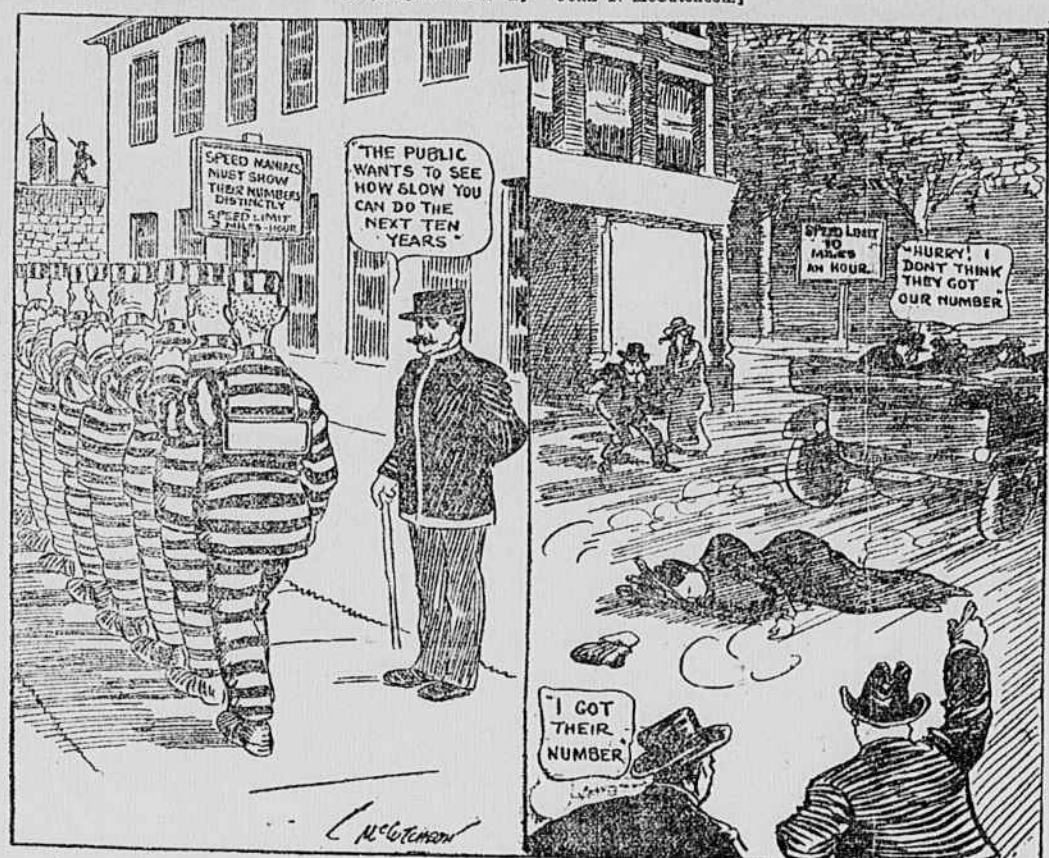
For a Nurses' Home.

To the Editor of The Times-Dispatch:
 Sir.—I quote below a portion of a
 letter which I have written to one
 of the prominent men of Richmond,
 which is self-explanatory and which
 I hope you will see fit to publish
 in your columns, and will learn that
 arousing public interest in the estab-
 lishment of a nurses' home, an insti-
 tution which is as necessary to the
 public as a hospital, is a hospital.
 "There are about 300 trained nurses
 in this city, renting rooms wherever
 they can, mostly in uncomfortable,
 old-fashioned houses. As 'room-

A Little of This Would Prevent An Awful Lot of This

By John T. McCutcheon

[Copyright, 1912, By John T. McCutcheon.]



Again a Virginia judge and jury have
 proved immune against the skill of
 ingenious lawyers and deaf to their
 persuasive yet flagrant pleading.

A few weeks ago a lot of men, bred
 to lawlessness, holding in contempt all
 the rules of civilized society, and rebul-
 lous against constituted authority, were
 shot to death remorselessly a judge on
 the bench and the prosecutor of the
 pleas of the State, and attempted to
 murder the clerk of the court; yet
 when arraigned at the bar of justice
 had the consummate effrontery to set
 up the plea that they were so in-
 duced, so utterly baseless, as to add
 contemptuous insult to deliberate, pre-
 meditated murder.

Despite an array of witnesses and
 well paid lawyers, they did not suc-
 ceed in befuddling the court or jury,
 but the process of justice moved on
 slowly but surely to their logical and
 just determination, and when called
 upon to announce their verdict the
 jurors answered guilty of murder as
 charged, and Floyd Allen started to-
 ward the electric chair.

There was no interval of months or
 years between the deed and the judg-
 ment. There were no continuances, no
 motion to quash the verdict, no quib-
 bling over hairbreadth legal distinctions.
 One point was kept in view, and one
 only, and that was: Did Floyd Allen
 kill Judge Massie, or was he a party
 to the tragedy in such way as to make
 him a principal therein?

That was the only question which
 was logically or rightfully before the
 court, and the jury answered it as hon-
 est, fearless men, and answered it as
 it should have been answered.

In two-thirds of the counties of
 Texas no indictment would have been
 returned up to this time, and when
 one was returned, the court would have
 been bombarded with all manner of
 motions and pleas and exceptions, and
 when the jury had declared the defen-
 dant guilty the battle would be just
 begun.

Allen will doubtless appeal, but when
 he does, unlike the procedure would
 be in Texas, no record will go up as
 big as an unbridled dictionary. It
 will be in the form of bills of excep-
 tion, pointing out the errors com-
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 in this city, renting rooms wherever
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renters' no one is responsible for
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 the night and early morning and are
 supposed to get their rest